



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Freedom of Information Office
Building 31, Room 5B-35
31 Center Drive, MSC 2107
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-2107
phone: (301) 496-5633
fax: (301) 402-4541

Via email: 82078-19467461@muckrock.com

November 5, 2019

Anthony Lauzon
Muckrock News
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: FOI Case No. 53085

Dear Mr. Lauzon:

This is the final response to your October 23, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to the FOIA Office, National Institutes of Health, (NIH) which was received in this office November 1, 2019. You requested a copy of statistical data regarding the number of human organs donated by purported suicide victims categorized or formatted in such a way that it can be determined whether or not the donor had any criminal record, including charges of arrest.

The NIH FOIA Office consulted the appropriate NIH offices regarding your request and no records responsive to your request are located at the NIH. Please be advised that the NIH is an entity of the Federal Government that conducts medical research and provides medical research grants to institutions. The NIH does not maintain the statistical data that you have requested.

While we believe that an adequate search of appropriate files was conducted for the records you requested, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist which would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, your appeal must be sent within ninety (90) days of the date of this letter, following the procedures outlined in Subpart F of the HHS FOIA Regulations (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/28/2016-25684/freedom-of-information-regulations>) to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs/Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Room 729H
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201
FOIARequest@hhs.gov
FAX: 202-690-8320

Please feel free to call 301-496-5633 for additional information or to inquire about your request. If you are not satisfied with the processing and handling of this request, you may contact the OD FOIA Public Liaison and/or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS):

<u>NIH FOIA Public Liaison</u>	<u>OGIS</u>
Stephanie Clipper	National Archives and Records Admin.
Public Affairs Specialist	8601 Adelphi Rd – OGIS
Office of Communications and Public	College Park, MD 20740-6001
Liaison	
Building 1, Room 131	202-741-5770 (phone)
1 Center Drive	1-877-684-6448 (toll-free)
Bethesda, MD 20814	202-741-5769 (fax)
301-496-2411 (phone)	ogis@nara.gov (email)
nihfoia@mail.nih.gov (email)	

In certain circumstances, provisions of the FOIA and HHS FOIA Regulations allow us to recover part of the cost of responding to your request. Because no unusual circumstances apply to the processing of your request, there are no charges for search time.

If you have any questions about this response, please call the NIH FOIA office at 301-496-5633.

Sincerely,

Gorka Garcia-Malene
Freedom of Information Officer, NIH